

25X1 NSC BRIEFING

24 February 1959

CAMBODIA

- I. The strained situation in Cambodia erupted last weekend with a sudden move by Premier Sihanouk against his chief internal foe, General Dap Chhuon.
- A. Sihanouk's troops captured Dap's headquarters on 22 February.
- B. Swift action follows Dap's declaration of dissidence in letter to throne.
- C. Dap escaped [REDACTED] 25X1
- [REDACTED] (Dap originally commanded 3,000 troops.)

II. South Vietnam's course of action critical factor.

- A. Sihanouk claims firm evidence of clandestine outside support for Dap.
- [REDACTED] 25X1

2. Sihanouk evidently apprised in advance of Vietnamese-Dap plotting; this could have been done by Communists or French.
- B. Vietnamese may react strongly to Sihanouk's public accusations; may even invent reasons for new border clashes to aid Dap.

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